#17/439

Patent US/(211C1) Attorney Docket: 032,290-051 (Formerly ARTM 1011-4)

SEP 0 2 2003

IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

In re the Application of:

Morrison et al.

Serial No.: 10/045,657

Filed: November 7, 2001

For: TISSUE SEPARATOR ASSEMBLY

AND METHOD

Group Art Unit: 3739

Examiner: Rosiland Stacie Kearny

SEP 0 5 2003

RESPONSE TO RESTRICTION REQUIREMENT GY CENTER HOLD IN THE HOLD IN

Commissioner for Patents P.O. Box 1450 Alexandria, VA 22313-1450

Sir:

In response to the office action dated August 1, 2003, the applicants make the following election:

Amendments to the Claims are reflected in the listing of the Claims, which begins on page 2 of this paper.

Remarks begin on page 5 of this paper.

CERTIFICATE OF MAILING (37 C.F.R. §1.8a)

I hereby certify that this paper (along with any referred to as being attached or enclosed) is being deposited with the United States Postal Service on the date shown below with sufficient postage as First Class Mail in an envelope addressed to the Commissioner for Patents, P.O. Box 1450, Alexandria, VA 22313-1450.

August 28, 2003

Date of Deposit IR1:1047015.1 Cynthia B. Pacheco